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MANURES.

(Continued.)

Of the Fermenting, Preserving and Applying of Vegetable and Animal Manures.

The value of organic manures as food for plants, depends very much upon their management. The great mass of manures used by the farmer are a mixture of animal and vegetable matters. Should these be allowed to *heat*, or ferment?

As woody fibre is greatly in excess in the refuse of a farm-yard, a slight degree of heat or fermentation is necessary to induce this to begin the decomposing process when it shall be placed in the soil. Any excess of fermentation tends to destroy and dissipate the most useful parts of manure; and the ultimate result of the *heating*, or fermentation, is similar to that of combustion; it is only the *indestructible* (and least valuable) parts that are left after the process. A violent fermentation will reduce green manure one-half or two-thirds in weight, occasioned by the loss of gaseous matter, *(fixed air and ammonia)* which in the soil might become a useful nourishment of plants. In addition to the loss of vegetable food by fermentation, there is another loss—that of the *heat* engendered in the process—which if produced in the soil, would promote the germination of the seed and assist the plant in the first stage of its growth. In addition to these reasons, it is a general principle in chemistry, that substances (of a gaseous nature particularly,) combine much more readily at the moment of their disengagement, than after they have been perfectly formed. By allowing the manure to ferment beneath the soil, all fluid matter produced is instantly applied to the roots of plants, and is therefore more liable to be efficient. Checking the fermentation of a dunghill by covering with earth, or by water, is wholly inefficient; spreading the manure, in dry weather, is the only means of stopping the heat.

Of Manures of Mineral Origin.

Manures of lime, plaster, and other saline substances, are of more recent invention, and doubtless of more uncertain use, than those we have described. The conversion of matter that has once composed a part of plants, into the same forms again, is a process that can be easily understood; but it is more difficult to follow those operations by which earthy and saline matters are converted or consolidated in the fibres of plants. These operations are capable of great elucidation by chemistry. We shall describe the theory of the operation of such manures, and some of the most common kinds used.

Some philosophers have attempted to prove that plants receive from the soil and air only the elements of vegetables, and by the power of *life* they convert these into, and form the various substances found in them. But the general results of many experiments are entirely opposed to such doctrine. The ashes of the glass-wort, *(salsola soda,)* when it grows remote from salt water, contains potash; and when it grows on the sea-shore, it affords soda. The sunflower, when growing in soils containing no nitre, (saltpetre,) does not afford this salt, though when watered with a solution of it, it yields it in abundance. It has been proved conclusively that the ashes of plants are always similar in constitution to the soils in which they grow. It is a fair conclusion then, that the different earths, salts, &c. found in plants, are supplied by the soils in which they grow, and are in no cases composed by a new arrangement of the elements which constitute these substances. These views of the subject lead to correct ideas of the operation of mineral manures. They produce their effect, either by becoming a constituent part of the plant, or by acting upon its more essential food, so as to render it better fitted for the purposes of vegetable life.

Lime, in different states, is the most common of mineral manures. Quick lime in its pure state, is injurious to plants; but slacked lime *(lime combined with fixed air,)* is a useful ingredient in soils, under the form of limestone, chalk, &c. When newly burnt lime or unslacked lime, is mixed with any moist, fibrous, vegetable matter, there is a strong action between the lime and vegetable matter, and they unite, forming a compound which is partially soluble. By this operation, lime renders vegetable matter, which was before insoluble and inert, nutritive. Mild lime, limestone, marls, &c., have no action of this kind on vegetable matter; and the action of quick lime and slacked lime depends upon entirely different principles. Quick lime applied to land, tends to bring all hard vegetable substances into rapid decomposition and solution, so as to render them a proper food for plants. Slacked lime, marl, &c. will only improve the texture of the soil, and act merely as one of its ingredients. Lime promotes fermentation. In all cases in which fermentation is useful to produce vegetable food, lime is always efficacious. It will extract vegetable food from tanner's spent bark. Quick lime should never be applied to a soil unless it contains much inactive vegetable matter, as peats, swamps, &c.

Gypsum, or Plaster of Paris, is lime combined with sulphuric acid, (oil of vitriol,) and has been extensively used in many parts of the United States as a manure. Very discordant notions have been formed as to the mode in which plaster operates to promote the growth of some plants. Some supposed it acted by attracting moisture; others supposed it assisted the rotting of manures.

The ashes of clover, wheat, Indian corn, &c., afford considerable quantities of plaster, and this is supposed to constitute an essential part of their woody fibre. If this be admitted, it is easy to explain the reason of its operation; if the soil does not contain plaster in sufficient quantities for the purpose of vegetable growth, of course a dressing will assist the growth of such plants as it constitutes a part of. Where a soil is not benefited by plaster, it is owing to its already containing enough. Hence plaster has no effect after a certain number of applications.

Wood ashes consist principally of potash, or vegetable alkali united to carbonic acid; and as this substance is found in almost all plants, it is not difficult to conceive that it may form an essential part of their organs. The general tendency of wood ashes is to give solubility to vegetable matters; in this way they render charcoal and other substances capable of being taken up by the tubes of plants. The effect of *leached* ashes is similar, only not so active, because the ashes have been deprived of the most of their alkali.

Thus have we detailed in a brief and practical manner the chemical properties of manures, together with the theory of their actions; the whole of which forms a beautiful illustration of the order and economy of nature in the formation of vegetable structures. By the death and decay of animal and vegetable substances, they are separated into their constituent parts, thus preparing them to again become the constituents of living bodies. The rotting of such bodies in the atmosphere produces gases that are noxious to man, but when confined beneath the soil, these become the food of plants, and are gradually converted into forms of beauty and usefulness—the perfume of the rose and the farina of wheat; and what was before poison, becomes the nourishment of man.—*Scientific Tracts.*

PRESERVING EGGS.

We have seen many recipes for preserving eggs, and have tried several without success. They have been saved in good condition a year or more, in lime-water, but this requires much skill, as the lime-water may be too weak or too strong, there being a vast difference in the quality of lime. These nice chemical preparations may answer for those who are doing business on a large scale, but for common domestic purposes, they will not answer.

We put down some eggs in plaster of Paris, last July, (1844,) in a close vessel. First a layer of plaster, then a layer of eggs, not allowing one egg to touch another. On top we put a few inches of plaster, and then covered the vessel over closely. The eggs were fresh, being put down as fast as they were laid, or within three or four days. They were placed with the small end downward, and set in a dry cellar. In another vessel we put down some at the same time, and in the same manner, with fine salt.

Eggs from both lots have been tried every month from January: the last trial was on the first of this month, (June, 1845,) when the eggs had been put down nearly eleven months. They have all proved to be perfectly sweet and pure, and at the last trial, the white in a raw state, had its natural taste, and those saved in salt had no perceptible taste of salt. The eggs looked, when broken, like recently laid egg, excepting for the last three months, in those saved in salt the yolk adhered to the shell: on this account, and as salt is liable to melt in a cellar, we prefer the plaster.—*Bost. Cult.*

A farmer of Glenburn, Maine, informs the editor of the Bangor Whig that the potato rot has commenced in that region one month sooner than it did last year, and anticipates bad effects.

AGRICULTURE AT THE SOUTH.

[The Southerners—cotton-growers in particular—are beginning to see the necessity of adopting a different system of agriculture from that which has exhausted their lands and is now impoverishing the owners. A writer in the Southern Agriculturist discourses as follows on the subject:]

Suggestions for Southern Planters.—The present is the darkest day of our agriculture. We have all been reared up under a *cotton regime*. Suddenly its power and vitality are gone, and we are prostrate. Despair and ruin look us right in the face. In our confusion, darkness and hopelessness, a multitude of schemes for our salvation are proposed. A combination to reduce the cotton crop (to increase the price,) is loudly called for. This is plainly impracticable. All will not agree; and if all agreed, not one would feel safe in trusting his neighbor, much less his competitor a thousand miles off. Immigration is a remedy some propose; this is doubtful; or at least partial, since few can or will adopt it; and so far as it goes, destroys, instead of renovating our region. A prominent suggestion is to embark in manufactures. How? sell our negroes, give away our lands, and place our all into the hands of strangers, to be invested in a business about which we know nothing, and cannot hope to learn much, before it may be too late? Let speculators speculate in factories. If the cotton planter is to work out his own salvation and redeem his country, it must be in his own line of business. This may be taken for granted. He is a child of the sod, reared upon the sod, and he must live or perish on it. All shifts are vain. It is only making bad worse, to rush into radical changes, and "fly from ills we have, to others that we know not of."

Having made up our minds to hold on to our native soil, to the occupation we have been trained to, and to baptize ourselves anew "in the sweat of the brow," let us look around and see what can be done.

The first thing that strikes us is, that we have been under a *cotton-growing delusion*, and sacrificed everything to it. When our soil was fresh and cotton high, we abandoned all other culture, and purchased with our cotton a vast deal that we might have made or grown ourselves. It is, however, folly to quarrel with the past. Our errors were in carrying on this system too long, and in exhausting our soil too far. These we must retrieve. Not violently or suddenly, by radical revolutions, or slight-of-hand contrivances, or combination; but gradually, and on the same base line that our past operations have been conducted. We all know something about making and applying manures; and we can readily learn all that is known everywhere, the world over: the facts are few, the principles simple, and our experience and course of reflection have prepared us to comprehend and apply them to our own profit. Nature has been prodigal of the resources furnished us for the purpose. We have lime, marl, peat, muck, salt marsh, oak leaves, and almost every variety of mineral and vegetable material for compost. All that is wanted is resolution to embark vigorously, and to the proper extent in the matter. Our farms will be our factories, our own slaves our operatives, and we ourselves must be the managers. If we are so foolish as to estimate the cost and profits of extensive manuring, by comparing it with past cotton planting, of course we will conclude that it will be ruinous; but compare it with present cotton planting, and it will be seen that every planter can profitably engage one-fourth or more of his whole force in making manure at this time. The planter whose land has been enriched by manure, may then, if so disposed, exhaust it again, and coin his deposit of compost in "*mint drops*." He will have lent labor worth but little, and got back in due season, golden usury; while the value of his lands has been vastly enhanced, and his happiness inestimably increased, in seeing everything about him flourish luxuriantly—big stalks of cotton and big ears of corn, fat hogs and cattle, *greasy-faced, smiling negroes*, and substantial barns, stables, and negro houses. All these things follow inevitably in the train of heavy manuring. Manure makes corn—corn-stalks, stock—stock, manure. Let them be, therefore, combined. Let every man set about restoring his worn-out lands, and sacredly abstain from all bread and flesh not produced by himself, and a few short years will rejuvenate South Carolina, and make every one of her sons rich in money—and what money cannot purchase—contentment.

We should never doubt the providence of God. The greatest blessings often come to us in the appearance of the greatest evils. In our entire devotion to mere cotton growing, we have neglected the rich resources bestowed upon us, and the culture of crops far more important to both our moral and physical well-being. The time has arrived when to do so longer might be a lasting injury to us. For our own good, and for the welfare of our species, the agricultural capabilities of our State must be developed. With cotton at five cents, this will be more fully done in ten years, than it would be in as many centuries, perhaps, with cotton at ten cents. A wiser forecast than our own has ordained our task: let us address ourselves to its accomplishment. HOLKHAM.

From the N. Y. Farmer and Mechanic.

MUCK AND LIME.

Gent.—In this section of country, as in most others, the only material wanting is manure, which I think may be found to be more abundant than most men are aware of. I see on almost all farms lots of muck, in the shape of bogs, or in swamp holes, which might be easily drained, and converted into valuable manure by means of a little lime and exposure to frost, rain and sunshine. I will relate some few facts that have come under my immediate observation, in my own town, a little back from the Connecticut river. It was upon a farm purchased by my father, that had been exhausted of its productive properties, by selling off the hay and straw for several years in succession. It was restored in the following manner: The first year, about twenty loads of turf-muck, from a piece of ground mostly grown over with sour grass, was put into the hogs' yard, for them to work over; fifty more into the barn-yard, for the cattle and sheep to work up, turning it over once or twice in the course of the summer. Before getting it out, it was put into heaps, mixing in the coarse manure and a little unslacked lime and leached ashes. As soon as the heap got quite warm, it was removed to the field. This was used as a top-dressing upon land that had before been planted and hoed, and now laid down to grass, which dressing gave us a good crop of wheat and oats, and assisted the grass-seed to get deep-rooted, and the result was a good crop of grass after it. The compost from the hog-yard was put in the hill for corn and potatoes, which gave good return for the labor.

Next year, two different experiments were tried, not quitting the first, however. One was, to get out about sixty loads of muck from one place and another, and leaves and other substances from the woods; let it lay exposed to the frosts of winter and the rain and sun of summer, until about the first of August, when about three hogsheads of lime, unslacked, was mixed with it, and when properly heated, was put on three acres of turf ground, newly turned over and rolled down smooth, and then well harrowed in. Rye and grass seed were then sowed, the land again harrowed and rolled, to make smooth, and it produced two tons per acre of good hay, whereas before, not one-half ton was cut.

The other experiment was, to take fresh muck, sour and cold, as it came from the place dug, and put a part in the hill for corn and potatoes, but did not get much benefit from it the first year, though the crops continued to improve as the muck got warm. This field, in the course of three years, was made to produce a good quantity of grass, just by harrowing the turf when dry enough to bear the team, sowing plenty of timothy and redtop, and putting on about ten loads of compost per acre, made from yard manure, muck and lime.

Morristown, N. J. E. P. W.

PREPARING SWAMP LAND FOR GOOD GRASS.

We find August and September the best months for working bog or swamp lands. They are now more easily drained than at any season, and now is the best time for seeding down for mowing. The very first step to be taken is to open sufficient drains to take the water off at all seasons of the year. English grass, you will bear in mind, will not live through the winter under water.

If you design to cultivate or to increase the growth of the natural meadow grasses you should never suffer a ditch to be cut unless for the purpose of draining off standing water. You will injure your harvests materially by ditching. You would better turn running water over such grounds than to make them more dry.

But for the English grasses you must drain your low grounds. Open drains will answer in many places. Covered drains are necessary in some. Covered drains should be so made that the lower end only may be open; otherwise the drain will soon choke up and cease to perform its office.

All your open drains should be cut as nearly parallel to each other as possible for the convenience of plowing, when you may have occasion. Nearly all our drained meadows become hard enough, in a few years, to bear a team and to admit of plowing; and as wild grasses will continue to encroach on the cultivated kinds, unless you make use of much manure, you will need to turn the whole surface topsy turvy once in eight ot ten years. You will then seed down again at once on the furrow in the mode that we have so often urged.

If you have meadows that you ditched last year, you will fit them first for grass before you cut new ditches; for it is important to put in your seed in season. Various modes are practiced to subdue those soils and fit them for seed. In some cases it is well to plant the land for one or two years, take the crops off early and seed down in the fore part of September.

Some of these bogs must be cut up and turned over with bog hoes, as it would be too much labor to bury the whole matter with gravel or loam from

the high grounds. But where the surface is tolerably even and high land soil can be readily procured, the easiest and the best mode of proceeding is to bury the whole meadow with earth, deep enough to kill the whole vegetable growth, or keep it back till the new substitute has gained a footing.

THE PROPER SOIL TO BE PUT ON MEADOWS. When you determine to subdue the soil by burying up the vegetable growth on the surface, you should consider well the nature of the bottom. If it is light and puffy, and apt to suffer for want of moisture in August, as some bogs will, clayey loam will be the best article to cover the surface with. Clay alone is a good article to be spread on the surface to be mixed in such a soil. In case the bottom is not very light and puffy, any common soil will do well for a covering. But if the bottom is naturally quite wet and cold, gravelly loam, and even quite stony gravel, is found to be the best articles that can be applied. This warms the ground and permits the water to drain off through it. It is better than sandy loam.

When these bottoms can be readily plowed, plowing will be found the cheapest mode of subduing, whether you plant the ground for one or two seasons, or sow on the furrow after taking care to make it smooth with harrows and hoes. In this case you will want a strong mixture of high land earth with your manure, and at every dressing care should be taken that the warmest soil be mixed with it.

COST OF COVERING ONE ACRE WITH LOAM. We are now engaged in carting loam on to a common piece of meadow that bears coarse grass. We chose not to cut the grass, because we wanted to bury it in such a manner as to kill it completely, and we wanted the grass to help fill up the crevices between the small hassocks. We shall keep an exact account of the cost of covering over an acre, and intend publishing it. Many farmers suppose the expense of subduing in this way to be much greater than it really is.

If the cost does not greatly exceed that of any other mode of subduing, this mode is to be preferred to any that has been recommended; for the highland soil will always be useful here among the cold peat and mud, and we are paid twice over for our labor in carting it. The tough sward is subdued by it and the soil is made permanently better. The loam or gravel that is necessary to cover the whole acre will always be wanted to be mingled with the bottom matter whenever it may be necessary to turn up the sward again. From some trials that we have made, we think we can cover an acre at a cost of twenty dollars. When the material is close by the meadow bottom, a scraper may be used. In some cases a wheelbarrow is better than a cart.

The manure, or top-dressing, is a distinct item of expense. Manure must be used in all cases, whether on meadows or high grounds, and it should not be counted as an item in the cost of subduing—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Barns Destroyed by Lightning.—The destruction of barns and their contents by lightning this season, has been uncommonly great in New England. We have noticed, in nearly every exchange paper we have recently looked into, one or more instances of loss of property in this way. Protect your barns by properly constructed lightning conductors, and also by insurance.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 16, 1845.

From Azel Bowditch, a magnificent display of Double Balsams, and four bouquets.

From Samuel Walker, a great variety of fine Phloxes and other cut flowers.

From Messrs Winship, cut flowers in great variety.

From Joseph Breck & Co., cut flowers in great variety; Double Balsams, Phloxes, &c.

From Parker Barnes, Double Balsams and cut flowers in variety.

From S. A. Walker, Brookline, a fine display of Double Balsams, cut flowers; also, four bouquets.

From James Nugent, fine Dahlias and Double Balsams.

From Wm. E. Carter, Phloxes in great variety, and cut flowers; also, 5 pots of Gloxinias and Achimenes, and 3 bouquets.

From Geo. Whittemore, Boston, one plant of Amaryllis longiflora.

From H. R. Kendall, Brookline, one Cactus blossom.

From E. M. Richards, a variety of fine Dahlias.

From Capt. Macondray, a splendid display of Double German Asters, and cut flowers of various sorts.

From Hovey & Co., a great variety of fine Phloxes; Roses, fine Double Balsams, &c.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, 1 large and 8 small bouquets.

From W. Kenrick, by Miss Russell, 1 large pyramidal bouquet and 3 small ones.

From Wm. Quant, 1 large superb bouquet.

From J. E. Cabot, Salem, Lychnis flosculi plena alba; Rudbeckia grandiflora var. very splendid; a beautiful species of Pentstemon; Aconitum pyuraicum and Hallerii; Phlox Marianne, and a variety of other new perennials.

From Geo. C. Thorburn, New York, Combretium purpurea; Lagerstrœmia indica; Gladiolus Gandvensis and var. viridis; Dahlias—Keyne's Duke of York and Standard of Perfection: Fuchsia var Bridegroom; Petunia, var. Lady Peel, and Double Spotted Balsams.

From N. Mathews, by T. Needham, 2 bouquets and 2 pots of Double Cockscomb.

The committee award to Wm. Quant, a premium of $2 for the best bouquet. To J. L. L. F. Warren, a premium of $1 for the 2d best.

The Judges on Phloxes award to Messrs. Hovey & Co. $5 for the best 6 varieties; to Samuel Walker $4, for the 2d best; to Joseph Breck & Co., the 3d premium of $3, for the 3d best.

WM. QUANT, *Chm'n.*

The 6 varieties of Hovey's Premium Phloxes were—Charles, Princess Marianne, Rosea superba, Nymphea alba, Pyrenne, and a fine seedling.

Mr Walker's were, five fine Seedlings, and Breckii.

Breck & Co.'s were, Henry Clay, Lawrenceii, Wilderii, Breckii, and 2 seedlings.

The Judges on Balsams award to Azel Bowditch the 1st premium of $3, for the best display; to Jos. Breck & Co. the 3d premium of $2, for the 2d best display.

S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

The show of flowers today was very fine—the varieties exhibited very numerous—and we find it impossible to enumerate them without occupying too much room.

For the Committee, JOSEPH BRECK.

EXHIBITION OF FRUIT.

By the Messrs. Winship, Pears for a name—2d rate—variety unknown to the committee.

By Cheever Newhall, Pears for a name.

By E. M. Richards, a good Pear, without name, and Sugar-loaf Apples.

By Mr Phillips, Northboro', fine Apples.

From Mr Wellington, by J. P. & D. R. Palmer, fine specimens of Williams's Favorite Apple.

By S. Walker, Roxbury, Pears—Fondante Van Mons, Fondante d'Automne, Andrews, Tyson, Jargonelle, and Summer Franc Real; also, Benoni and William's Favorite Apples.

By Wm. Richardson, Cambridge, Peaches—Yellow Rareripe and Grosse Mignonne, both fine.

By Mr Cabot, Salem, Pears—Nouvelle Mabille, second rate; Sucree de Hoyerswerda, second rate.

By S. Downer, Jr., Peaches, of very high flavor.

By A. D. Williams, fine Apples.

By George Walsh, three var. Apples.

By G. Lewis, Roxbury, Apricots.

By E. E. Bradshaw, Charlestown, Nonpareil Apricots, and Long Purple Plum (?)

By J. F. Allen, Grapes, viz: Black Hamburg, Zinfindel, Golden Chasselas, Ferral, Grizzly Frontignan, White do., White Chasselas: Black Figs; Peaches—Grosse Mignonne, New Jersey Grosse Mignonne, Early York, and a Seedling; also, Summer Franc Real Pears, fine.

By Otis Johnson, Lynn, Pears—Bloodgood, August Muscat, Citron de Sierenz, (second rate,) and a very fine specimen of Early Bough Apples.

By S. Pond, Plums, viz: Pond's Seedling, Italian Damask, Duane's Purple, and Washington.

By T. Needham, from Mrs. Mather, Brighton, two fine Melons.

By James Munroe, Early Bough Apples; Sanspeau and Gros Rousselet (?) Pears.

By R. Manning, Plums—Black Damask, Wilmot's Early Orleans, Early Orleans, Lawrence, (of the London Hort. Society—worthless,) Grunswood's Early Orleans, and one var. without name; Pears: Tyson, Elizabeth, Rostiezer, and a var. unknown and worthless; Apples, Orne's Early.

By J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton, Wax, French Jargonelle, and Dearborn's Seedling Pears.

By Mr Hildreth, Lynn, Seedling Plum.

By Mr Washburn, Plymouth, Nouvelle Mabille Pear (?) second rate.

By Dennis Wood, New Bedford, a variety of Apple unknown to the committee, but not worthy of cultivation.

For the Committee, S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

Vegetables.—Two quarts Lima Beans, and a specimen of the Chili Prolific Bean, from J. W. Macondray, Dorchester.

Two Egg Plants, extra size, superior specimens, from Orr N. Towne, Somerville.

For the Committee,

WM. B. KINGSBURY, *Chm'n.*

Hints to Housekeepers.—Suet keeps good all the year round, if chopped and packed in a stone jar, and covered with molasses.

To have a supply of horseradish all winter, grate a quantity while the root is in perfection, put it in bottles, fill with vinegar, and cork tight.

When molasses is used for cooking, it is greatly improved by boiling and skimming it before used. It takes out the unpleasant raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar.—*Amer. Traveller.*

☞Keep the hogs supplied with peat and muck.

ECONOMICAL HINTS.

We extract the following sensible article from an old paper of 1816. It contains suggestions that will be found useful to farmers, especially when the crops are short.—*Boston Jour.*

"*Remedy for Scarcity.*—As the present scarcity of grain produces serious distress among the poorer class of people, and what is almost as painful, much greater wants among the domestic animals, it becomes an object of great importance to diminish the consumption, and to increase the nutriment of that consumed. Proper attention to the subject most certainly will reduce the use of grain one-half of the present quantity; and it behooves every man in good circumstances, to attend to it, in order that there may be more for market. If every one will seriously carry into operation the plan I have to propose for feeding, the price of grain will be so reduced, that the poor will be supplied on moderately terms; half-starved cows and horses will pass a comfortable winter; and some of the vile sharpers, speculating in articles of the first necessity, will be disappointed in their project of fattening on the necessities of the needy.

A most important point is, to suffer no animal to grain in its natural state. It should all go through the hands of the miller and the cook. The life of the grain resists the action of the stomach so long, that it passes into the bowels before decomposed; and from thence, in like condition, is expelled. Three quarts of oats or corn, ground fine, will yield more nourishment than three gallons not ground. [This may be true in case of *horses.*] And, of as much importance as grinding, is boiling the food with water, so as to make a thin mush. This mush, mixed up with hay or cut straw, will in a day or two be preferred by the animal to any other diet. One gallon of meal, added to two gallons of boiling water, and if not boiled with hay or straw, (which would be best,) poured on it and stirred up, and given at night, will, with the aid of a little hay in the day, preserve any horse or cow in good order. This mixture or mush, ought by all means to be boiled a few minutes, otherwise but little good will be done. This is confirmed by the following experiment, repeatedly made in England. A man, confined to a given quantity of raw materials, with abundance of water, would gradually decline in flesh; but with the same quantity of raw materials made into soup, would continue in good condition. The union of the water with the food by boiling, is like that in vegetation: it becomes a component part, and is converted into nourishment for the body, if not chemically united. Whether this reasoning be convincing or not, matters but little, since those to whom it is not satisfactory may rely upon the fact, that boiling meal before adding to it straw or hay, will make it go twice as far in the support of their stock. Surely for such an advantage, so easily obtained, every one ought to get over the natural indolence and common aversion to deviate from old habits.

Another considerable saving well worth attention, will be made by giving the animals all their meal food before dusk, and without hay during the night. By eating the meal food at night, their stomachs convert the whole of it into nourishment. Grain given to animals in the day-time, when in exercise, is of little use, as it passes through them undigested. Hay in the day and grain at night, is the better practice, both for the owner and the brute. Giving hay at night, really injures animals that are worked in the day-time, by keeping them awake to feed, when they demand rest.

The last point I have to press, in the economizing of food, is the necessity of keeping stock *well sheltered*; that is, securing to them the benefit of their own warmth. It is a truth, indeed, that during their exposure to the irregularities of the season, they require twice the ordinary food, for their nourishment and stimulation, and are subject to ten times as many fatal disorders as they otherwise would be. Man, their master, has taken them from a state where nature supplied their wants: and if he be not too much of a brute to feel for their hardships, he ought to be so much of a *man* as to supply what his interests dictate, as a requital to the animal for its loss of what nature designed for its welfare.

If by this plan of grinding and boiling the food of animals, the half of the grain be saved in the country, as most certainly it may, there will be little occasion for pressing the extension of the principle to *man*, by advising the eating of *mush* instead of bread, and *soup* instead of meat.

THOMAS EWELL.

Georgetown, 3d Dec., 1816.

For the New England Farmer.

PLAN FOR A FARM BARN.

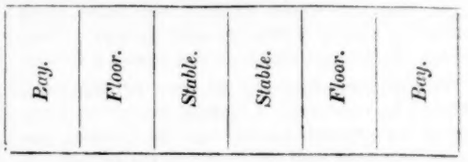
Mr Breck—Sir—The confidence which the community now feel in the utility of barn cellars, is drawing the attention of farmers very much to their barns. When we make a barn cellar, it is very desirable that it be made so that we shall be satisfied with it. In order to accomplish this, the old barn must often be new modeled, or a new one substituted at the time the cellar is built. If, therefore, any valuable suggestion can be made in regard to the construction of barns, it will now be peculiarly seasonable.

There appears to be an almost universal opinion that the only convenient construction for a barn is that where the floor runs through the middle from end to end. Those who build cellars, generally either bring their old barns into this shape, or pull down and build new; and in so doing, they sometimes incur no inconsiderable amount of unnecessary expense; while others are denying themselves the privilege of a cellar, because they are not quite ready to pull down and build after this plan, though they might easily conform their old barns to a plan equally convenient and more economical. The plan which has the floor running through lengthwise, is doubtless the only convenient one where there is no cellar; but the introduction of the cellar alters the circumstances. In this case there is no sort of necessity for having our stalls contiguous to the outside of the building. The manure is not to be thrown out at the window, but into the cellar.

This plan is liable to one objection, which every body is aware of, even in building a new barn: viz. the floor takes up the best part of it. Both the bay and the scaffold are curtailed by the declivity of the roof.

The advantages of this plan above others previously in use, are chiefly these: it brings the floor between the cattle and the mow, thus contributing very much to the convenience of feeding the stock. It brings all parts of the bay and scaffold within such a distance from the floor as to be conveniently filled, and gives a free circulation of air before the cattle, if they are stabled nights in the warm season.

I have now another plan to propose, which I regard as possessing these advantages and avoiding the above-mentioned objection; and which in the case of old barns, which are usually narrow, may often be adopted with less expense.



This drawing presents the full idea; but the size may be varied indefinitely. One-half may be added, or one-half dropped; or if a less variation is desired, one bay may be so enlarged as to admit of a few stalls on that side of the floor, and leave sufficient room for the fodder. There might be a scaffold and two stalls at the head of each floor, without great inconvenience, unless the barn is narrow and the raising of grain is made of considerable account. In that case, one floor for threshing might be left free through the whole width of the building. J. G.

Westboro', Aug. 8th, 1845.

SOWING GRASS LANDS.

It is now becoming quite common for farmers to sow their grass seed in August and September. Many, however, prefer the old way, and sow in April or May. There can be no doubt but that unfavorable results often issue from both practices, for should the weather be unfavorable, and the state of the soil inauspicious, a failure is almost inevitable in either case.

By sowing in the spring, both time and expense is economized to a certain extent,—the ground is then in a state of preparation, in good tilth, and the seed can be sown without any additional trouble; but the growth of the plants, usually fragile and tender, is greatly retarded by the emasculating influences which result from the growth of the standard crop. Instead of enjoying the direct influences of the fructifying agents on which the health and thrift of every vegetable production principally depends, the young grass plants are nearly deprived, not only of the sun's warmth, but of the rain and air. If the soil be *rich*, the more vigorous growth of the grain soon effectually secludes them from all these fructifying influences, leaving them to struggle up amid a forest of luxurious vegetation, which, from its more rapid germination, and more vigorous habits of growth, soon appropriates to itself, not only the atmospheric resources of nutrition, but those also of the soil. We have seen grass sown with wheat and oats, which looked promising at the commencement of the season, but which withered away and disappeared before the crop was actually fit to cut. Most of the cereal grains are *strong feeders*—they exhaust, in a short time, all the immediately appropriable aliment contained in the soil, leaving the grasses to subsist upon the innutritious and often scanty residuum left behind after they have acquired their growth, or to be sustained and nourished into vigor by a fresh application of some stimulating manure.

The following, which we clip from the New England Farmer, vol. ii., page 322, contains some hints not unworthy of regard:

"The result of sowing grass and grain together is to injure both crops, and very often to lose the grass entirely. Such loss and vexation may be avoided by sowing the grain alone, early in the spring, with such manure as has been allotted for

the field; and as soon as possible in August, after the crop of grain has been housed, to plow the stubble in, turning a good furrow, that the stubble may have a chance of mouldering away, which the showers usually taking place about that time, and the heat of the weather, will generally bring about in the course of 12 or 15 days; before the end of August the field should be cross-plowed, the grass seeds sown on the furrow, harrowed, and rolled. It is of much importance in this part of the process to avoid any delay, and therefore it is quite needful to put in the grass seeds: even if the weather should happen to be dry at the time, they will lie safe in the ground, and be ready to improve the benefit of the first showers, when the grass will soon make its appearance, and generally make a good progress before the winter sets in. If the winter should prove favorable, nothing further is wanted to secure a good and lasting field of grass, than to draw the roller over it in the spring, as soon as the frost gets out of the ground; this will settle the roots of the young grass, which the frost will always heave up, and which without rolling, would be exposed to suffer from the sun and wind. In case that the winter should prove changeable, with cold turns and successive thaws and hard rains, then the grass will be exposed to suffer, by being killed in spots, perhaps some of it washed away: in such cases it is needful, as soon as the frost is out of the ground, and it is not wet, to harrow the field over, and sow some fresh seeds."

The most successful efforts at stocking down which have fallen under our observation, were made in the fall, and without the emasculating operations of a previous crop of grain. Potato lands that have been well manured and carefully wed, constitute a most excellent lodgment for all descriptions of grass-seed—*Maine Cult.*

[The following remarks were intended for England; but some of them are as applicable and as true here as there:]

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

The application of science to tillage must be gradual to be useful; there must be no jumping at results. Men of small capital will consult their own interests by taking advantage of the experience of their more opulent neighbors—especially with regard to the value of foreign and chemical preparations for manures. When first the advantage of draining became evident, it was supposed to be a panacea for all the evils attendant upon an unproductive farm, and hence it was used without much discrimination as to the depth of the drains and the nature of the land to be operated upon; and it was frequently practiced where tapping would have been more judicious in every point of view. The quantity of rain which falls is seldom injurious to vegetation, provided it is not permitted to rest about the roots of plants, and thus become sour. Drains should, therefore, be made deep enough to carry off the superfluous moisture after it has performed its office of nourishing the fibres, &c. Shallow drainage has the effect of hardening the surface of the soil, and preventing the water from filtering through. These truths should be recollected, which will save both needless labor and expense.

About well-rotted farm-yard manure there can be no mistake: it is suited to every crop, and never fails, if properly administered; the only difficulty being the procuring it in sufficient quantities to preserve the ground in generous and constant tilth. There are neglected sources at home, from which this desideratum could be amply supplied: resources for forming a compost, far better than any foreign guano, or other import.

Draining and manure being the essential and prominent features in farming, it is requisite for a tenant to consider how far he can carry these out, before he enters into treaty for a certain number of acres; otherwise, he can neither repay himself, nor act justly towards his landlord. A farmer ought to have capital according to the land he holds, which is calculated at somewhere about 7*l.* (about $34) per acre, at the lowest, without which a portion of his land must remain fallow and unprofitable, from the want of means to dress and crop it.

A vain attempt has been made to prove that only *large* farms remunerate: this is most decidedly an error, and is only true when backed by a long purse. Of what use are a parcel of half-cultivated fields to any man? Nothing but a burden and disgrace. In travelling through the country, the eye rests too often on half-tilled inclosures, producing more weeds than grain, and evincing too palpably the folly of the large farm and small capital systems. Gardens are a convincing proof of what may be accomplished by tough sinews, cold iron, and a plentiful supply of manure; and though we cannot expect farms to arrive suddenly at such perfection, yet, if the population gradually increases in the present ratio, they must also advance with onward steps, if human beings are to live, and have anything to eat. It is lamentable to observe the quantity of waste land through the kingdom, capable of supporting many thousands of our fellow-creatures, but now only offering a scanty pasture to a few half-starved sheep, or some few of Pharaoh's lean kine, whereas it might, by the application of a little hoarded gold, be converted into a mine of wealth.—*Falcon, in London Agricul. Gaz.*

AGRICULTURAL INCONSISTENCIES.

Prejudice and error generally go hand in hand. I proposed subsoiling my heavy land for beans. A demurrer was instantly raised by a farmer present. "Oh! (said he,) we always plow shallow for beans." "But don't you double-spit your gardens?" "Certainly we do." "And don't you grow beans in your gardens?" "To be sure—capital ones, too." "What! and that on double-dug (trenched) ground."

It would puzzle a conjuror to tell why a farmer always digs his garden 20 inches, and plows for field crops only 5 inches.

Again—a farmer will caution you against sitting in a draught of air, or lying on a damp bed. Of course, he takes care not to do so himself; but he pursues an entirely different plan with his cattle. They must be exposed to both those dangers—as if their sensations and physiology differed in that respect from our own. Let us keep our cattle dry, warm, and well fed, and we shall seldom feel the cramp in our pockets.—*I. J. Mechi, in Chelmsford (Eng.) Chronicle.*

THE DISEASE OF THE POTATO CROP.

[From a paper recently read before the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland, we extract the following, without, however, adopting the author's theory of the cause of the disease.]

"The first symptom of the degeneracy of the potato plant in Scotland, appeared about the year 1780, when the distemper called the *curl*, first appeared in the crop; but it occurred so rarely that very little notice was taken of it; but the evil gradually and extensively increased, and about the years 1784–5, the whole crops of the Lothians were seriously affected by it. A remedy, however, was accidentally discovered, by changing the seed for that from the high country; and this has been the only remedy for the curl up to the present time. From 1835 to the present year, 1845, the seed has had to be changed yearly, as it was found a new disease appeared in the fields. This was called the *wet* and *dry rot*; and, in many instances, seed from all situations, high and low, has now failed. These two kinds of disease are variously accounted for. Some ascribe the cause to maggots and flies feeding upon and destroying the seed plants; but this is a consequence, and not a cause; for maggots and flies are only to be found on diseased or putrid vegetation. Plant a sound potato in a good soil, and properly treated, it will find its way to the surface, and produce a good crop, in defiance of all maggots and flies. The seeds of disease, then, must be in the constitution of the plant.

In examining a diseased potato, it is plain that there is canker on the skin, and plague-spots all over it. This, if planted, will certainly be attacked by maggots and flies; but the plant is in a state of decay or putrefaction, and hence it belongs to them by right of inheritance. The great object then, is, to plant sound seed. As the crops on the highlands are early checked by frost, and the tops or haulm soon destroyed, they do not fully ripen; and this circumstance has induced farmers in the low districts to take up their crops for seed in a green or unripe state, in order to imitate the operations of nature on the hill grounds. But this plan has also failed. Seed has often been raised from the ball, but in two or three years it curls and degene rates.

In looking at the origin, general history, cultivation and general management of the potato plant, in this country, I have been led to the conclusion that there can be only one cause for the failure of the plant, viz: *over-cultivation.* The crop too often repeated on the same soil, and too much stimulus applied to the plant, has weakened or destroyed its vital energies, and rendered it incapable of reproduction. In the cultivation and general management of the plant, we have entirely lost sight of nature, which always follows the moderate or middle course; and, by a long train of mismanagement, we have nearly lost this most valuable root. Who can contemplate a luxuriant crop of growing potatoes, in full bloom, but must reflect on the immense stimulus applied to produce such a mass of stem, foliage and blossom, and, at the same time, how much the roots or tubers must be enfeebled and exhausted in producing it?" * * "I would advise the experiment of topping or cutting the potato tops with a sickle, about the time of the decay of the blossoms, in case the tops are too luxuriant. This will not only prevent their seeding, but check the luxuriance of the stems, and save the tubers from exhaustion. It is well known that turnip-rot is produced by excessive manuring; and I have long entertained the idea that smut in wheat, barley, and oats, has always arisen from over-cultivation. Every farmer has gone upon the principle that too much stimulus could not be applied to his crops; but the degeneracy of the seed or root has not been thought of."

[We observe, that in this country, neither the rot in potatoes nor the smut in grain, can be attributed to excessive manuring:—that 's sure.]

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Aug. 20, 1845.

VISIT TO THE FARM OF HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, Marshfield.

(Continued from our last.)

Manures and Crops.—We have already remarked that fish and other sea manures were extensively used on Mr Webster's farm. Of the beneficial effects of fish and kelp on corn and grass, we were an eye-witness. A field of corn of 15 acres, had been divided into four sections, and manured as follows: 1st section with fish; 2d, kelp; 3d, stable manure; 4th, guano. On the three first sections, the manures were spread upon the sward and turned under; the section where the guano was applied, was turned over without manure, and the corn dressed with the guano soon after it had appeared above ground, and a second dressing given at the last hoeing, at the rate of 300 lbs. to the acre. Forty loads to the acre of stable manure, were applied to the section dressed with that substance: the quantity of kelp applied was indefinite, the ground having been well covered with it, without counting the loads. Fish were applied at the rate of 10 loads, of 13 barrels each, to the acre. Taking the field as a whole, it gave the appearance of a remarkable heavy crop. The section manured with kelp, took the lead; that with fish, next; that with stable manure, next; and the section with guano, behind the whole. The quality of the soil of the different sections was nearly equal, excepting that which was guanoed, which had the appearance of inferiority. The corn on this section, we were informed by the foreman, looked very unpromising in the fore part of the season, but was now evidently gaining more rapidly than that on either of the other sections, and he said it was impossible to make a just comparison until after harvest.

On a mowing field, we saw the effects of fish that had been applied since the grass was cut. The contrast between that portion of the field which had been "fished" and that which had not, was very striking, in the deep green luxuriant growth of the aftermath on the one, and the russet-brown, dead-like appearance of the other. But who can describe the *odor* which came from that field! All the old fish-oil stores on Long Wharf combined, would not produce the like, or any approach to it: and then the swarms of large green flies that covered the fences and trees! The plague of flies in Egypt, could hardly have exceeded them in numbers. The decaying fish furnished them a rich feast. Luckily, this section of the farm is remote from any human dwelling. But however unpleasant this vile smell from the rotting fish may be to a stranger, a person soon becomes accustomed to it, and as the unpleasant gases arising from the decomposition of the fish, are said not to be injurious to health, and as this manure will double or treble his crops, the farmer should not be deterred from using it by the disagreeable character of the smell.

We noticed a small patch of corn in another place, that had been manured with guano in the hill, and afterwards received a fish to each hill as a top-dressing: the corn was of the deepest green, and of the most luxuriant growth.

We have often heard it asserted that fish manure, after exciting the land to produce one or two heavy crops, leaves it in an exhausted state. This opinion is at variance with what we witnessed on a pasture that had been "fished" four years since. We compared it with a pasture adjoining, both originally of the same quality of soil, or differing but little. The pasture that had been "fished," was thickly coated with fine grass, and notwithstanding the drought, still produced the best of feed. The neighboring pasture was dried up, mossy, and apparently of little value. Another pasture was shown to us, which had been manured with fish nine or ten years since, and before the application was almost worthless: it has since produced excellent feed, and is now in good heart. These results would seem to show that fish manure is not so evanescent as it has been represented by writers and others.

Mr Webster said he considered one load of fish was equal to three loads of stable manure, and afterwards appealed to his head farmer, for *his* opinion upon the subject, who thought a load of fish equal in value to five loads of stable manure.

Sea-weed is used in the piggery and barn-yards, and every means of increasing manure from these sources, appear to be availed of.

Leached ashes has been used to some extent, and proves a valuable manure on the light soils which compose a part of Mr Webster's farm. On a ten-acre lot of very light land, 3000 bushels of English turnips were raised last season, with no other manure than leached ashes, and at an expense of only 73 dollars. About four acres of the same lot were sown down to clover, and the balance with oats, for the purpose of plowing in when green, to enrich the soil. A very light dressing of guano was given these fields. The oats were so promising, that Mr Webster altered his mind with regard to their disposition, and concluded to let them stand and mature; and on this very light soil, with no other manuring than leached ashes last year and a small quantity of guano this, we now beheld, ready for the cradle, a heavy crop of oats. The clover on the other part of the field covered the ground, and was soon to be plowed in, as was also the stubble of the oats, for seeding down to rye.

A tract of ten acres, of the same quality of soil, was covered with a vigorous growth of buckwheat, which the plowmen were engaged in turning under, preparatory for rye. Another large strip was devoted to beans, and four or five acres to ruta baga, sown broadcast, and not sufficiently advanced in growth to enable us to form an opinion of the probable result of the harvest. A lot of three or four acres was devoted to mangold-wurzel and sugar beets. In some parts of the field, the crop had been thinned by the worms, and causes attributed to the season or the seed—but the plants generally were thick enough to ensure a heavy yield. Another large section was devoted to English turnips, which, of course, had not yet began to make much show.

Fifteen or twenty acres of the farm are devoted to roots, which are fed to the stock in winter. Last autumn and winter, a lot was fed off the ground by sheep, according to the English practice.

Spring wheat has generally succeeded well on this farm, but the present season has been rather unfavorable. Samples that we examined from the crop stored in the barn, did not indicate a very heavy yield: the grains did not look so plump as samples we have seen from this farm.

The yield of English hay this season, has been estimated at absut 200 tons. The salt hay is mostly let out to farmers back from the shore, to cut on shares. The marshes yield about the same quantity of hay as the uplands. The quality of the marsh hay varies; some of it is almost equal in value to good English grass, while some is fit only for bedding or manure.

The farm appears to be well stocked with apples, pears, peaches, plums, grapes, &c. Among the apples we noticed the High-top Sweeting, a variety that may be found on about every farm in Plymouth county, and in some orchards there appeared to be an overstock of this ancient and highly esteemed apple; but we are sorry to say there is hardly a thrifty tree to be seen: the variety seems to be on the decay.

The stock on Mr Webster's farm, taking it all together, cannot be surpassed by any in the State. The last season he wintered about ninety head. The cows are generally of the Ayrshire breed, either full-blooded or mixed. They originated from a cow imported by the Mass. Agricultural Society, and a bull imported by Mr W. This animal is finely proportioned, silky, short haired, and equal to any creature of the kind we have seen. The cows are also beautiful, and give abundant evidence of their superiority in the quantity of milk they produce—having averaged, in the first of the season, 20 quarts each per day. He has eight milch cows of this breed. We saw in a pasture at some distance from the house, 10 two-year old heifers of this blood, that could hardly be excelled in point of symmetry and general beauty, having the glossy hair and admirable mixture of colors peculiar to this breed.

For working oxen, Mr Webster prefers the Devon breed, of which he had 10 or 12 yoke, in excellent order, besides steers. He had sent a drove of fat oxen to Brighton market, a few days previous to our visit.

Of sheep, he has the celebrated South Down and Leicester breeds—more esteemed for their excellent mutton than for their wool. Wethers are purchased at Brighton market, in autumn, and kept through the winter on turnips, hay, and a little grain, and well fatted in the spring, sold to the butcher. This has proved to be good husbandry, affording some profit, and increasing the manure heap.

The Mackay breed of hogs is now the only sort kept on the farm—the Berkshire having been tried and discarded.

We conclude this hastily penned and imperfect account of our most agreeable visit to this extensive and well conducted farm, by remarking, that the interest taken in Agriculture by such men as Mr Webster, Mr Clay, Mr Van Buren and Mr Calhoun—all of whom are engaged, and are proud to be, in the culture of the earth—is a scathing rebuke to those weak-minded or wrongly educated persons, who look, or affect to look, with contempt upon, and to consider as degrading, the noble occupation of the farmer. And truly gratifying is it to see men of such signal abilities and exalted repute, though differing in politics, united and ardently devoted in the great cause of agriculture—the basis of national wealth and national prosperity—and whose followers constitute alike in peace and war, the main bulwark of the country's welfare and security.

☞ We are sorry to see that our friend of the New England Farmer was shown recently at Waltham, by the intelligent and skilful overseer of Mr Green's farm. —*Boston Courier.*

True, we *reported* ourself as having been "shown," but omitted to state that *no charge* was made for the exhibition. Seriously—we will endeavor to avoid giving our sympathetic friend of the Courier cause for sorrow again, by *showing* ourself in such an unfavorable manner. When inditing for the public eye, we will imagine his pen to be suspended *in terrorum* over our head—and if under *such* circumstances we perpetrate an assault on grammar, we will own that it was not, (as in the case to which he good humoredly alludes,) through "absence of mind," but through sheer ignorance of grammatical propriety. But, with the *best* exercise of our abilities, we can never hope to attain, in writing, that grammatical accuracy and elegance of style for which the venerable editor of the Courier is distinguished.

The Weevil.—A brother in Kennebec county, Me., has sent to us samples of his wheat, in the head, to let us see the weevils and their disastrous work. Upon rubbing the heads in the hand, several of these insects are developed, and the proportion of shriveled and rotten grains, tell plainly how destructive must have been their ravages on the crop. Until attacked by the weevil, the wheat from which these samples were taken, gave promise of more than an ordinary yield.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Aug. 17.

Aug., 1845.		7, A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	11	70	73	73	E.
Tuesday,	12	71	79	73	N.
Wednesday,	13	59	83	72	N. E.
Thursday,	14	69	88	76	S.
Friday,	15	68	79	68	E.
Saturday,	16	62	76	65	E.
Sunday,	17	63	73	69	E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 18, 1845.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 1550 Beef Cattle, 4000 Sheep and 1975 Swine. Several hundred Beef Cattle, 1000 Sheep and 200 Swine unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—In consequence of the very large stock at market, prices of every description declined. Very few Extra Cattle at market. First quality $4,62 a 4,75. Second quality, $4,00 a 4,50. Third quality, $3 a 3,75.

Sheep.—"Dull." Lambs from $1,12 to $1,75. Old Sheep from $1,25 to 2,00.

Swine.—Shoats, to peddle 3 a 3 1-4 for Sows, 4 a 4 1-4 for Barrows. Old Hogs 3 3-4, 4 and 4 1-4. At retail from 4 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $1 75 a 2 00 per bushel. Red Top 50 to 60 cents. Clover—Northern, 9 to 10c.—Southern, 8 a 9c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $1 50 a 2 00 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. The receipt of Corn during the week just closed amount to some 20,000 bushels. Very little afloat unsold. Oats have arrived freely.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 58 a60 —Southern, round yellow, 58 a 00—Southern flat yellow, 57 a 58—do. do. white 53 a 55—do New Orleans, 50 a 52—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 65 a 70—do. Southern, 63 a 68 —Oats, Southern, 36 a 40 — Northern do. 00 to 00—Beans, per bushel 0 00 a 0 00.—Shorts, per double bush. 00 a 00—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR. No change in prices; sales to the trade, to a fair extent, have been made since the last weekly report.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $4 50 a 0 00 —do. wharf, $4 37 a 4 50—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00 —Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00 — Fredericksburg, low l'd new $4 37 a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf, 4 25 a 4 37 —Georgetown, $4 50 a 4 62—Extra do. 5 00 a 5 25—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do. City, $6 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 37 a 4 50— do fancy brands, $4 87 a 5 25—Ohio, via Canal, $4 25 a 4 75—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 25 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 12 a 2 25.

PROVISIONS There have been some further speculative movements in the market during the past week, which has kept prices pretty firm.

Beef—Mess 4 no new bbl. $9 50 a 10 00—Navy—$8 75 a 9 25.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $6 00 a 6 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $14 50 a 00 00—do Clear $13 75 a 14 00 do. Mess, $12 00 a 13 00—do Prime $10 25 a 10 75—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 12 a 15—do store. uninspected, 8 a 12—do dairy, 15 cts. a 17—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 8 a 8¼ —do South and Western, 8 a 8¼— Hams, Boston, 8½ a 9 — Southern and Western, 8¼ a 8½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 6 a 8—do new milk, 7¼ a 8½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. adval. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

There has been an increased demand for fleece Wool during the past week, and sales to a considerable extent have been made.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 37 a 40 c.—American full blood, do 35 a 37—Do. 3-4 do 33 a 35—Do. 1-2 do 31 a 32—1-4 and common do 28 a 30 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15 — Bengasi do 6 a12—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10— do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 36 a 38—No. 1 do. do. do. 34 a 35—No. 2 do do do 23 a 25— No. 3 do do do 14 a 17.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 00 a 00 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 12 to 12½ per ton—Eastern Screwed $12 to 00.

EGGS, 12 to 14.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

The subscribers can furnish all the most desirable varieties of *STRAWBERRY PLANTS* now in cultivation.

AMONG THEM ARE

Swainstone's Seedling,	Elton Pine,
Ross's Phœnix,	Bishop's Orange,
British Queen,	Keen's Seedling,
Hovey's Seedling,	Early Virginia,
Myatt's Seedling,	Downton, English Wood, &c.

☞Plants will be packed to send any distance.

Gentlemen who intend to form new plantations, are reminded that the month of August is the most suitable time of the year to do it. All orders will be promptly attended to, and good plants sent. J. BRECK & CO.

Boston, Aug. 5. Nos. 51 & 52 N. Market street.

HERDS GRASS OF EXTRA QUALITY.

The subscribers have received a few tierces of extra fine *HERDS GRASS SEED*, perfectly free from all foul seed, which they can confidently recommend to farmers for August sowing. Also, their usual supply of good *GRASS SEED*, of all kinds. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nos. 51 & 52, North Market street, up stairs.

Boston, July 23, 1845.

2000 SUPERB TULIP BULBS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale the celebrated and costly bed of Tulips imported for the Public Garden, and pronounced by competent judges to be the finest collection in this country. The subscribers obtained the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's premium of $8 for the best thirty distinct varieties which were taken from this bed. They will be sold at the very low price of $3 per dozen, which is not one half the cost of many single bulbs in the collection. There never was a better opportunity for amateurs to indulge themselves with a bed of these truly splendid flowers. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nos. 51 & 52, North Market street.

Boston, July 29.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil low is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor ahd fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth."

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

WILLIS'S
Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

ROLLERS.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 N. Market Street, Cast Iron, Stone, and Wooden Rollers—of different sizes and prices.

Aug. 13, 1845. J. BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.
2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.
3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.
4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

DURHAM BULL FOR SALE.

A full blood Durham Bull, from the stock of G. Vail, Esquire, of Troy. A very fine animal, and now one year ten months old.

Also, a Bull Calf of the same stock, five months old,—may be seen at the Farm of John Clarke, sen., on the Worcester Turnpike, in Brookline April 15.

Guano! Guano!

Just received and for sale in lots to suit purchasers, 20 tons African and South American Guano, of superior quality, the best ever brought into this market. The African, which is part of the cargo of the brig Samos was analyzed by one of the first chemists of this country, and pronounced to be of the first quality; it has been fairly tested by many of the farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Boston, and has fully equalled their highest expectations. We can fully recommend the South American, which has also been carefully analyzed, and found to be a splendid article, and very superior, being free from stones and hard substances. For sale by the ton, bbl. or bag. Orders addressed to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market street, will be promptly attended to.

Boston, March 25, 1845.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

NOTICE.

The full blood imported Ayrshire Bull WALLACE, (with pedigree complete,) will be at my farm in Chelsea, for a short time, for the use of a few Cows.

BEN. SHURTLEFF, Jr.

May 28, 1845.

GEDDES'S HARROW.

This excellent implement, considered a great improvement on all other kinds, is for sale at the N. England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street, by

May 21. J. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TAKING THE CENSUS.—*Marshal.*—How many male persons are there in this family?

Old Lady.—Do you mean children and all?

Marshal.—Certainly.

Old Lady.—Oh, then there ain't none, cos my children is all gals, 'cept John, and he ain't my child: d'ye count John?

Marshal.—Who's *John?*

Old Lady.—La! don't you know John? Why, he's lived with me these ten year. He's our hired man.

Marshal.—Well, that's one male. How many females are there in the family?

Old Lady.—Females? Let me see: There ain't none but Betty, the hired gal.

Marshal.—I understood you to say that your children were girls.

Old Lady.—La! yes! Wall, d'ye count them?

Marshal.—Certainly I do: I count *all* who make it their home in your family—old and young—men, women and children.

Old Lady.—Sakes alive! Then you want to take down the old gentleman, I 'spose, don't you?

Marshal.—What old gentleman?

Old Lady.—My old man, to be sure.

Marshal.—To be sure I do. I thought you said 'John' was the only male in the family.

Old Lady.—So I did; but I did n't spose 'males' meant decrepit old men, like my husband. Poor dear! He's been all but dead with the palsy these six year next hoeing.

Marshal.—Now for the females.

Old Lady.—Well, there's Betty, and Prudence, and Grace, and Jemima—that's all—four of 'em.

Marshal.—But you havn't included yourself.

Old Lady.—Gracious! D'ye put down the *old* women too? 'Peers to me the State's mighty curious this year.

Marshal.—How many neat cattle are owned by this family?

Old Lady.—All we own is two hogs, and they aint the *neat*-est critters that ever was.—*Albany Citizen.*

Life.—Life has been beautifully compared to a fountain fed by a thousand streams which perish if one be dried. We are encompassed with dangers every day, that may sever, when least expected, the silver cord of life, and crush the mouldering tenement of the spirits. How weak is the tenure by which we hold our existence! The seeds of disease are planted in our constitutions by nature. The atmosphere whence we draw the breath of life, is impregnated with death. The food that nourishes the body, contains the elements of its decay: the soul that animates it by a vivifying fire, tends to wear it out by its own action. Death lurks in ambush along our paths, and his arrows may strike us at any hour.—*Selected.*

The N. Y. Atlas says that a person having heard of the wonderful cures performed by the newly invented Galvanic Rings, ordered a number of them to be used as snout rings for his pigs, in order to *cure* his bacon.

True Saying.—There are many hogs in this world with invisible snouts. Their bristles grow inwardly, and their souls wallow in the mire until they become fitted for the devil's pork-barrel, into which they go after a hard scald.—*Maine Cult.*

NATURE AND ART.—AN EPIGRAM.

By R. Morris, Esq., Ed. Pennsylvania Inquirer.

When Eve, the first of womankind,
As Queen of Eden roved,
Her thoughts were pure as mountain wind,
And all who saw her, loved.
The eagle screamed a lofty note,
The lion tossed his mane,
And e'en the linnet's little throat
Essay'd a flattering strain.
The eye—the lip—the soul-fraught face,
These won the first of men:
Each movement gave to life a grace,
To deck the mother of our race—
There were no *bustles* then!

CIVILIZATION AND ART.—AN EPIGRAM.

By J. R. Chandler, Esq., Ed. U. S. Gazette.

When Eve through early Eden moved,
And tuned her maiden voice,
It was not strange that Adam loved,
He'd only 'Hobson's choice.'
But when *ten* girls are found at home,
With chance for scarce *two* men,
Not *idle* grace, nor "linnet's" hum,
Will catch the beaux—to make them come
Each girl must *bustle* then.

A Kentucky Fight.—Game to the Last.—A gentleman (whose veracity, if ever *doubted*, will never again be impeached,) lately returned from a tour to the West, tells of a fight he witnessed in the backwoods of Kentucky. He says a gang of men had assembled at a drinking-house, and after the liquor they had imbibed began to operate, a quarrel and fight ensued. So desperate was the conflict, (says the narrator,) that every man of the party had his eyes gouged out, and when none could see where to strike, for the want of a peeper, they would feel round on the floor till they found an eye, then replacing it in the socket, they would "go at it again."

"I wish you would put me down for a puppy," said a dandy sportsman the other day to a practical amateur in canine flesh, who had recently had an accession to his "domestic circle" in his dog-hutch. "I put you down for one *long ago!*" was the tart reply.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty-seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twenty-nine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture. His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

In testing the quality of Plows, the power by which it is moved, the ease with which it is handled, and the manner in which it completes the work, are three important points, all of which are wisely, accurately and judiciously preserved in these improved Plows.

The character of these Plows for ease of draft and management, and the excellence of their work, though well established in the minds of the farming community, were most fully and satisfactorily exhibited to the public at the grand trial of Plows by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Worcester, October 9th, 1844, whose able and impartial committee awarded the highest premium of $50 to B. Martin, for the best Plow, for doing the best work with the least draft, in a trial open to the whole Union—this Plow running in its natural course, and keeping its true position, without any effort of the plowman, and turning a furrow 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a much less draft than any other Plow on the ground.

These Plows, as improved, are considered to be nearest to perfection of any implements of the kind in this country, as well in respect to material and workmanship, as in form of construction.

At the late Cattle-Show and Plowing-Match of the Worcester County Agricultural Society, in the heart of that most valuable agricultural county, B. Martin's Plow received the highest and most enthusiastic commendation from intelligent and experienced practical farmers, who know and are the most competent judges.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain. Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker, he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 24.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars,* at any *one time,* may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town,* and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt,* enclosed in a letter, *to us.* We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.